

# The Free Trader

FOR

1888.

The Free Trader is a Tariff Reformer.

It believes the heaviest burdens of the American protective system fall upon the farmer.  
It believes the farmer receives nothing in return; but, on the contrary, that he is hampered by it in his efforts to extend his export trade.  
It believes that the protective tariff is an injury to the working man; that his wages would be higher without it, his employment steadier, and his expenses for the necessities of life very much less.  
It advocates tariff reform (not free trade) and low taxes as opposed to free whisky and tobacco.  
It will teach democratic doctrine and support democratic men and measures.  
It believes in and will support honest government for the benefit of the whole people, and not a class.  
It is opposed to unjust combinations of all sorts.  
It will strive to perpetuate the control which the Democratic party now has of the national government, as being the best the people have had for many years.  
In the conflict of the year The Free Trader will be found in the right as usual.  
It will be as good a paper as can be made.  
It will be a paper for LaSalle county voters and taxpayers, devoted to their interests, and giving them reliable information only.

## Current Events.

The week has been noted for storms of magnitude, not only in America but in Europe. Late in last week the "cold snap" of this part of the country was a severe blizzard in the Northwest, as severe in some respects as any of the winter, and renewing the earth covering of ice and snow that had begun to disappear before the approaching spring. In Tennessee, Georgia, &c., it developed as a furious wind and rain storm—in some parts of the south the wind assuming the proportions of a cyclone. Later, a veritable cyclone swept over Kansas, doing much damage. In Europe the storm became a flood, and parts of Germany and Hungary suffered from an appalling extent. Along the Elbe, Nogat, Vistula and Oder rivers near 40 villages and hamlets were washed away; and over eight thousand people are homeless. Great masses of ice in the rivers tore away bridges, embankments and miles and miles of railway on Tuesday and Wednesday were under water. While endeavoring to break an ice gorge 14 soldiers were killed. The suffering is so great that the government has been called on for aid, and subscriptions have been started by several of the newspapers.

Balfour's Land Court bill has been read for the first time. It is looked upon as a means to undo the work of the commissioners under the laws of 1881 and 1885 by which a reduction in rents in Ireland of over \$10,000,000 had been made.

France has been scandalized by the reversal by an appellate court in the Wilson case, whereby the great distributor of the legion of honor decorations has been released. The people had just recovered their breath from this explosion when it was followed by the decree removing Gen. Boulanger from the army. In both cases the people are highly indignant.

The new Chinese treaty has been made public. It provides for a stoppage of immigration for the period of 30 years. This does not apply to the return of any Chinese man who has a family in this country, or property of \$1,000 or debts of that amount, which right must be exercised within one year. Residents shall have the right of transit, protection, &c., and the United States government, while disclaiming responsibility therefor, agrees to pay \$276,619.17 indemnity to sufferers in the riots of the west of some time ago.

The anxiety of congressmen to get a "whack" at the tariff shows itself in repeated tariff speeches whenever there is the remotest connection between it and the subject in hand. Senator Dorsey on Thursday "got there" in a speech on the message, in which he supported the views of that document; and in the house, in a discussion of the Indian appropriation bill, Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota, took advantage of the promiscuous debate to argue in favor of tariff reform as the true American policy.

Senator Farwell has introduced a retaliatory bill under which by proclamation imports from foreign countries who discriminate against American products may be absolutely prohibited.

The house committee has completed its investigation of the manufacture of "refined lard" by the packing houses, though the introduction of the bill to tax the product in the same manner as oleomargarine is taxed, will not take place immediately. The investigation has shown an almost universal adulteration of the product by the packers, who use beef fat, cotton seed oil, &c., and has, it is claimed, done great damage to the packers.

The river and harbor bill has been compiled, and as to appropriations is the largest ever submitted to congress, aggregating \$19,432,783. The Illinois share is a little short of \$500,000. The Illinois river improvements get \$200,000 and a survey of the Illinois and Des Plaines rivers, with a view to the big waterway from the Lake to the Mississippi, was ordered.

The democrats in congress are not rushing to Mr. Randall's side of the house to any alarming extent. In fact, this appearance of his scheme in cold type seems to have awakened a wavering democracy to a realizing sense of their duty in the premises, so that the prospect of passing the Mills bill is better now than at any time since it was made public. The Mills bill is still in the hands of the committee and the republicans expect to have their ready by the time the committee report to the house.

The death of Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite, of the United States Supreme Court, on Friday last, was a great surprise from the fact that no notice of his illness had been given out, though he had been ill several days. He was buried on Wednesday at Toledo. He was appointed Chief Justice by President Grant in 1874 upon the death of Judge Chase, and though prior to that time, his reputation as a jurist was local rather than national, his rulings upon the bench demonstrated that he fully appreciated the duties and responsibilities of the position. As a matter of course anything now said as to who will succeed him would be mere speculation, though it is worthy of note to state that in no instance heretofore has a vacancy in the position so lately held by him been filled by the appointment of one of the Associate Justices.

An awful mine disaster occurred at a coal mine near Rich Hill, Mo., on Thursday last. There was an explosion which completely wrecked the mine, burying in the debris over 100 miners, who were cut off from all means of escape. More than 40 dead were taken from the mine on Thursday. The explosion was terrific, shaking every house in Rich Hill, six miles distant, and in most cases horribly mangled and disfiguring its victims.

The C, B. & Q. car works paint shop at Aurora were burned on Thursday night,

causing a loss of \$175,000. In half an hour after the fire started the shop was in ruins. One half the shop building was used as a hotel for the new men, many of whom narrowly escaped from burning in their beds.

The prohibitionists of Iowa, not disheartened by the break in their law made by the U. S. Supreme Court decision last week, have undertaken the preparation of a bill which shall directly prohibit the use of liquor by the people, and authorize the search of private residences and homes for liquors in the cellar or on the sideboard, in other words, directly control the habits of individuals.

The "Q" strike is not over yet by a long ways. On Friday the switchmen struck, and on Monday new men were put to work. On Thursday, while a non-union Q crew were delivering empties to the "St. Paul" road, the train was attacked by strikers. A switch was thrown open ahead of the train, but discovered in time to prevent an accident; and when a switchman was sent ahead to close it, he was attacked, as were also the men on the engine and train. The police finally dispersed the mob, but the arrest of a "St. Paul" switchman for participation precipitated a strike of engineers, firemen and switchmen on that road which yesterday was completely tied up.

Among other resolutions adopted by the Minnesota Farmers' Alliance on Thursday was one demanding a radical reduction in the tariff.

New York is threatened by a small-pox epidemic, introduced through lax quarantine precautions, the Britannia and sister ship initiative having brought the disease from Italy as they brought the cholera some months ago. The small pox hospital is full and cases are scattered all over the city and also exist in Brooklyn.

The Grant-Badeau controversy still goes on. The plith of it is that Badeau claims to be the true author of the Grant "Memoirs," and columns of correspondence, &c., have been printed on the subject on both sides. The ablest judgment on the exhibits made is Bill Nye's, who says: "Gen. Badeau has the advantage over Grant in one respect. He is not dead. Otherwise the case is against him." Nevertheless Badeau wants and insists on a division of the profits of the book, notwithstanding he has already been paid an extravagant sum for the small amount of work he actually did in its preparation.

The tariff protected sugar trust is in clover just now, and the profits roll in by the barrel. On Thursday a dividend of 2½ per cent, on a capital of 45 millions was declared, being five months' profits. The raw sugars have declined one-sixteenth of a cent but the refined has advanced three-fourths of a cent per pound.

Wm. Dorshelmer, formerly Lieut. Gov. of New York, lately editor of the bright N. Y. Star, died at Savannah, of pneumonia, on Tuesday last. The Star under his direction has been a hearty supporter of the President and has become one of the best democratic papers in the U. S. On Saturday John T. Hoffman, ex-Governor of New York, died in Germany of heart disease.

## HIGH TARIFF AND THE FARMER.

An intelligent, sensible farmer writes:

But for our ruinous tariff, I think we would today be next to England, with merchant ships carrying our share of the commerce of the world. As it now stands, all nations are having a dab at us, in one way and another, retarding, some against the pork, some increasing the tax on our wheat, as Italy did on the 10th ult., and some declaring our cattle to have the pleuro pneumonia, and various other things in which the farmers are directly interested, and making treaties with other nations, preferring their commodities over ours, until there are no capitalists that are willing to invest in the building of ships with all odds against them in the competition. \* \* I think it is beyond the sphere of true governmental power to tax one class of industries to increase the profits of another, and it is beyond reason that our legislative bodies should enact laws to take from one man to give to another; hence I am in favor of great tariff reform, and it is a sentiment that is rapidly spreading among the farmers generally.

That such a sentiment should not spread rapidly among farmers generally would be extraordinary indeed if they were posted, as they ought to be, in regard to some of the simplest statistics bearing upon the effect of high tariff taxation on the farming interests of this country.

By the census reports of 1850 the total wealth of this country was given in round numbers at \$7,000,000,000, of which the farmers owned nearly \$4,000,000,000, or over one-half. At the end of the next ten years of low tariff the total wealth of the country had increased to \$16,000,000,000, of which the farmers owned over \$8,000,000,000, or still more than one-half. But during the high tariff period from 1850 to 1880—after twenty years of protection—the national wealth reached \$43,000,000,000, of which the farmers' share, instead of continuing one-half, had sunk to \$12,000,000,000, or a little more than one-fourth. Thus while, under a low tariff for a series of decades, the farmers continued to hold one-half of the wealth of the country, under a high tariff policy of two decades that proportion strangely sunk to one-fourth, and the downward tendency continues, so that to-day the farmers probably own less than a sixth of the wealth of the country.

To descend to particulars: In 1850 the aggregate wealth of the state of Pennsylvania was \$313 per capita, and that of Illinois \$183; during the low tariff decade from 1850 to 1860 Pennsylvania increased her aggregate wealth to \$487 per capita, or about 12 per cent, while Illinois increased hers to \$509, or nearly 30 per cent. During the high protective period from 1860 to 1880 Pennsylvania increased her wealth to \$1259 per capita, or nearly 300 per cent, while Illinois increased hers to \$1005 per capita, or less than 100 per cent. In 1850 the wealth of Massachusetts averaged \$777 per capita to \$183 for Illinois. From 1850 to 1860 Massachusetts increased to \$862 per capita, or at the rate of 15 per cent, while Illinois during the same decade increased to \$509 per capita, or at the rate of 300 per cent. But after the next 20 years of high tariff, Massachusetts had increased her wealth to the enormous figure of \$1568 per capita, while Illinois had increased to only \$1009.

The proportionate increase of wealth per capita in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts on the one hand, and in Illinois on

the other, is about the same as the proportionate increase of the aggregate wealth of the entire country and that owned by farmers; showing that while farm industries rapidly lost, the aggregate wealth gained—that is, proportionately,—for in no decade was the gain of the aggregate wealth of the country, as well as that of the farmers, as great by 50 per cent as during the low tariff decade from 1850 to 1860. In other words, the manufacturing industries made greater advances during the low tariff decade than during any other in our history, while the farming interests kept even pace with them; but under high tariff rule the manufacturing industries have not even held their own, while the farming industries have fallen behind at a fearful rate.

There is no getting around figures like these. The advocates of high protection may attempt to delude the farmer—and, alas, too often succeed—with fine-spun theories about home markets and independence from foreigners, but all this does not prevent the sad truth being forced home upon the great farming population of the country, that while the condition of the masses in the manufacturing states and districts is no better than it was 20 and 30 years ago, the number of bloated aristocrats, nabobs and millionaires has enormously increased; while in the farming states and districts the only notable increase has been the enormous one in the amount and grinding oppressiveness of the mortgages with which the farms are being plastered over. What the farmers should insist on is, not free trade, for that this country has never had and never wanted,—but such a reform and readjustment of the tariff that they shall have, as they had under the Walker tariff from 1850 to 1860, an even chance with the manufacturers—a chance to hold their own as they did when we had a low and equitable tariff.

The Chicago Times recently undertook the task of feeling the pulse of the farmers on the subject of the tariff. Both democrats and republicans were interviewed. The democrats are practically unanimous in the support of the President in his recommendation to congress, as only a few are Randallites. There is among republicans a surprising number of tariff reformers, 60 per cent of those interviewed being in favor of the reform; and it is the more noticeable in that a large per cent say that they would vote for Cleveland as opposed to the republican candidate if the tariff be made the issue of the campaign. In this county 17 republicans are reported as having been interviewed, of whom 14 are tariff reformers, (some absolute free traders) and four say they would vote for a democrat if necessary to obtain this reform. At this rate, with the tariff as an issue, as no doubt it will be, the democrats of Illinois will have rather more than a fighting chance to carry the state next fall.

The Chicago Tribune very pertinently says that in any political campaign conducted upon the issue of perpetuating high war bounties, when the government has no honest use for so much revenue, it will be difficult to carry conviction into the minds of men whose farms are plastered over with mortgages, payable chiefly to the eastern protected classes, amounting in the aggregate to the enormous total of not less than two billions in the western states, and drawing from 7 to 10 per cent interest, that the protection system is of any help to them. A system, the Tribune further remarks, that produces toll and self-denial may be pleasing to trusts and syndicates, but it cannot be acceptable to its victims, the food producers of the west, unless they are as stupid as the fabled donkey, which, after green spectacles were tied over his eyes, fed on sawdust and shavings until he died.

At the request of many friends of Lorenzo Leland, Esq., we take pleasure in announcing his name in connection with the office of Supervisor of the town of Ottawa at the ensuing election. He has accepted the call to make the canvass. Mr. Leland is eminently fitted for this office. A thorough business man; with the exception of Mr. Sherwood, the heaviest taxpayer in this city, he would go upon the Board eminently competent to do service to the county and to the city. We do not know of a man who could be selected by the people at this time who would do the town of Ottawa more credit, or be of greater use to the towns Supervisor. He should receive a hearty support on Tuesday next.

The April Harper is a superb number, from the frontispiece, "The Shepherd," to the last line of "The Drawer." It opens with "A Winter in Algiers," beautifully illustrated, which is followed by Wordsworth's sonnet, "The Shepherd," etc., Wm. Black's "In Far Lockmoor," and three choice poems. Then comes an illustrated article on "Acting and Authors," by the famous French actor, Coquelin. Other features of interest are: the second of Warner's "Studies of the Great West," one on the "City of Columbus, Ohio"; "The Leavenworth School," military, where our townsman, Lieut. A. L. Wagner, is now stationed; after which come short stories, poems, etc.

Senator Ingalls in his speech in the senate saw fit to denounce the distinguished generals, Hancock and McClellan, as allies of the confederacy, and the charge has aroused a storm of indignation among the veterans who served under them that can not be quelled by mere apology or words of explanation such as Mr. Ingalls has since hastened to make. But now comes the N. Topeka Courier which recalls the fact that Ingalls was himself in

1864 a candidate for Governor of Kansas on a ticket whose platform endorsed McClellan. So Mr. Ingalls was himself an "ally." But all this howl by Ingalls is mere bosh. The people of this country will never permit a return to a carpet-bag or army rule of the South or any other part of this country. The amazement of it all is that decent republicans ever permit themselves to think of the miserable, cowardly shame of that time,—a policy that defeated its own aims by forcing the South to become democratic when if they had been treated like men they would assuredly have remained republican as they were for some years after the war closed. Of all republican history which that party should be most eager to bury out of sight or hope of resurrection it is the reconstruction days, which Ingalls and Halstead are so anxious to see revived.

Gen. P. C. Hayes, of Morris, is an active candidate for another term in congress from this district. As his platform he is now publishing a treatise on the beauties and elegancies of a high protective tariff in the Herald, a half interest in which he has repurchased from Mr. Fletcher to whom he sold it during the Plumb campaign. Gen. P. C. has considerable "gall" to spring an active candidacy on this district again, which really ought to have somebody to represent it at Washington.

The republicans are very anxious that the President should "rise above party" in nominating a successor to Chief Justice Waite. Let see: how far above party did Lincoln, Grant, and Garfield rise when similarly situated? They appointed republicans, of course; no one expected they would not. Only a republican now has the assurance to expect that the President will appoint other than a democrat.

A meeting of the Ottawa Home Improvement Association has been called, for the 6th prox. The call is made with special reference to the observance of Arbor Day and it is hoped there will be a large attendance. Other matters looking to the general improvement of the city's appearance will be discussed to add to the interest.

Mr. Moses Osman has been compelled to give up his canvass for the assessorship because of sickness. This is to be regretted for obvious reasons, but his withdrawal is unavoidable.

John Sherman wants the notorious Kelfer to represent his district in the national convention. As Eliza Pankston is dead, the suggestion of Kelfer seems peculiarly appropriate.

If the protective tariff develops the industries of the country, how is it that so large a proportion of the New England woolen manufacturing establishments are closed today?

## County Grange.

The LaSalle County Grange held an adjourned meeting at Old Fellows' Hall, in this city, Thursday. A paper was read by A. C. Barnes on the subject of alien land holders. A resolution, introduced by J. S. Armstrong, in regard to silver coinage was adopted. Also one favoring the repeal of the U. S. government tax upon liquors. The following resolutions were then considered and carried over to the next regular meeting.

Resolved, By LaSalle County Grange, No. 61, P. of H., that corporations should be held responsible for all damage done by the sale or giving away of intoxicating liquors where such corporation grant license for the sale of the same within their corporate limits, no matter whether the damage results within the corporate limits or outside, thereby saving a large expense to the people for long sessions of grand jurors, also for long trials in courts after resulting in judgments against individuals who can evade an execution by schedule or other technicalities in the law. Be it further

Resolved, That we ask and demand of our next Legislature to pass some law thereby placing the responsibility where we think it rightfully belongs, namely, on the corporations which are willing to grant license for the traffic.

## Prohibition Tactics.

The prohibition campaign if conducted upon the plan proposed by Organizer Jewett, promises to be something unique if not startling. Mr. Jewett proposes that the prohibitionists in every county sign an agreement to pay a certain sum per month toward campaign expenses. When he made this proposal before the late "love feast" it drew \$111, seventy per cent goes to the campaign fund; 20 per cent to the State fund, and 10 per cent to the national fund. But now comes the great final act, the disbursement of this "campaign fund." Twenty wagons, prairie schooners, are to be built for Illinois. In each schooner will be placed 500 camp stools and a huge tent, patterned after the traditional circus tents, guaranteed not to fall without ten days' notice, nor to rip, fade or tarnish. What an interesting spectacle! One of these miniature caravans would drop into town, stop in front of the first hotel, and in five minutes the whole population would be out endeavoring to dispose of meat, bread, etc., with the interesting interrogative, "Whar ye bound for, stranger?" Then the enthusiastic orator of cold water would arise and with one wave of his wand, presto—the tent is up, the stools are placed, and the speaker is addressing the multitude from his wagon. That is, he addresses all who will pay five cents admission; like any side show, there's "millions in it."

The Ottawa Commandery of Knights Templar will attend Easter service at Christ Church tomorrow at 10:30 a. m. The service will consist of morning prayer, sermon, and holy communion. There will be a first celebration of the holy communion at 7:30 a. m. Infant baptism will be administered at 8:30 p. m. In the evening at 7:30 will be held the children's Easter celebration. At this service holy baptism will be administered to adults.

## OUR SPRING BOOM.

Solid Improvements for Which Contracts Are Made.

When Ottawa awakened from her Rip Van Winkle sleep of twenty years, in 1885, she did not arouse herself to a frenzy, but took on a rapid, steady and lasting growth, which the last three years have strengthened and made binding. She has forged ahead from a village to a busy mart of trade, and the solid improvements of this season promise to eclipse all of her wildest dreams.

When the FREE TRADER announced that the American Sewer Pipe Company had located on the main canal, it was greeted with incredulous murmurs, but only yesterday the foundation of a mammoth boarding house was laid on the company's grounds, and the accommodations for the men secured while the works are building. Interviews with several prominent contracting firms reveal these facts and figures:

## HENSLEY'S LITTLE BOOM.

George Hensley took down his contract book and read:  
Residence for Joe Savage, West side.  
Residence for Mrs Joe Kapp, West side.  
Residence for Mrs C Rabenstein, West side.  
Residence for Mr Fremstein, South side.  
Improvement, (extensive) E D La Chapelle, North Bluff.  
Aggregate amount of above contracts, \$75,000.

## SANDERS BROTHERS ARE BUSY.

The contracts closed by this well known firm are:  
Residence for L Leland, North Bluff.  
Improvement for J B Leamy.  
Improvement for Louis Gagel.  
Addition and improvement for Mrs R H Trask.  
Brick store building for J A Smith, Chatsworth.  
Residence for R Conlin, Utica.  
Improvement for Mrs S G Gay, Webster street.  
Cottage for J Murphy, in Union addition.  
Addition for Mrs Neomis.  
Cottage for Fred Holloway, North side.  
Grain warehouse, 40,000 to 50,000 bushels capacity, for Cotton & Hamilton.  
Addition for W Martin.  
Cottage for G W Gatz.  
Addition to City Mills.  
Many small improvements. Total, \$19,000.

## COWELL BROTHERS READY.

Residence for Mr Kenelly, North side.  
Residence for Hugh Cowell, Center Ot. (awa).  
Remodeling for A Lynch, East side.  
Remodeling for Mrs Rents, South side.  
Total amount of cost, \$8,000.  
These gentlemen are now erecting a fine residence at Kankakee, the front door of which costs \$100, in red oak. They have purchased the Young & Nash lumber yard, and will run it in connection with their business.

## WIKES & WOLF.

have contracts amounting to over \$20,000. They are:  
Sisters' Academy, \$15,000.  
E Swift, tenement house, South side.  
Mr T Foley, residence, South side.  
Mrs Ballman, remodeling.  
Mr Hardin, remodeling.  
Mr Gebhardt, Morris, brick store.  
These contracts, given by the four firms, amount to \$64,000, not including the outside contract of Cowell Brothers, nor the many houses and factories already spoken of. Beside this, Mrs. D. Sanderson has purchased the Rugg building, and will enlarge his refrigerator business to twice its capacity.

## Fourth of July.

A meeting of the citizens will be held at the supervisors' room, in the court house, on Monday evening, April 2, 1888, at 7:30 o'clock, to consult in regard to celebration of the coming Fourth of July. And if such celebration is decided upon to make the proper arrangements.

Such celebration has been endorsed and recommended by the Business Men's Association, and it is expected that they will attend in force as well as all other citizens interested.  
Ed. C. ALLEN, Mayor.  
Ottawa, March 29, 1888.

In our announcement column will be found the name of Mr. P. A. Hall for collector. Mr. Hall is a man of wide experience as a bookkeeper, and is amply qualified to discharge the duties of any clerical office. His standing as a business man should win for him the confidence of voters.

## Social Doings.

Mayor and Mrs. Allen gave a reception in honor of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Allen, Jr., on Tuesday evening at their mansion on the river.  
The Boat Club will illuminate the Clifton with the brilliancy of a grand ball on Thursday evening next.

Co. D's grand ball and drill on Tuesday evening, April 10th, promises to be an event of more than wonted brilliancy, nearly equalling the firemen's ball.

The Knights of Pythias drill and ball on the evening of Monday, April 30, is an event looked forward to with considerable satisfaction.

Gus Weideman's friends, ladies and gentlemen to the number of twenty-four, tendered him a pleasant surprise on Thursday evening. Music accompanied the invasion, and dancing to a late hour ended an enjoyable occasion.

Dr. Paul Carus, editor of the Open Court, and Mary, daughter of E. C. Hegeler, the zino king of LaSalle, were united in marriage by Judge Evans at the palatial mansion of the bride's parents in LaSalle at 8:30 o'clock on Thursday evening.

Maple sugar and syrup—a direct shipment from Twinsburg, Ohio, at Shaw's.

An Enthusiastic Gathering.  
There were nearly one hundred and fifty of the solid men of the Ottawa democracy assembled in the supervisors' room in the court house, on Tuesday evening, and although there was no attempt at speechmaking, not, however, for want of material, the unanimity and desire to see democratic principles paramount was reflected from every countenance.

Chairman Reed called to order, and the reports of the committees appointed at the last preliminary meeting were read, and with some little amendment adopted. The constitution gives the club a president, two vice presidents, a treasurer, secretary, corresponding secretary, an executive committee of five, a standing political committee of two from each ward. The matter of the selection of permanent quarters, was left to the existing committee, as was also the canvass of wards. Mr. Fred Crane announced nearly 200 names in the Fourth ward, and an estimate of 600 signers thus far, is not above the real number, as many young men, who will vote in November have not yet signed.

On account of the town election on Tuesday the regular meetings fixed by the constitution for the first and third Mondays in the month, the meeting to elect officers will be held on Monday evening, April 9. All are earnestly requested to be present.

Our reporter visited the Easter opening of millinery in J. E. Scott & Co's millinery department last Thursday. The display was truly magnificent, and he felt richly paid for the time he spent in looking at the beautiful spring bonnets, hats, &c.

This department has been very much enlarged, occupying now nearly double the room of last year, making a very large department devoted to millinery goods. The assortment of real choice millinery, the very latest in styles, has never been equaled in this city. To visit this department is a real treat, and its not often that a person meets so many polite lady clerks as we met in this department. We shall call again.

## Bran and shorts at Shaw's.

## Township Politics.

Now is the time of year when darkness night unwinds her mantled gloom, and graveyard scenes their ghosts and goblins wake. When earth her shroud of white and snowy snow forsakes, and dons her inky coat of busy mud. 'Tis a time when the bull frog and the thrush leave winter quarters snug, the barnyard fowl in winging flight sails to the hot bed fair, and sounds of restless conflict stands suspended in the atmosphere.

Aye, 'tis spring, and the candidate in gruesome mood, stalks midnight hour for office crude. Indeed, it is mystery deep that voter e'er can rest, so importunate the candidates' longings. He can't. There are four candidates for supervisor and assistants, just enough, and they expected to meet with no opposition. At least six desire the onerous post of commissioner of highways. Three are struggling for the collector's books, while the same number of gentlemen are in the race for assessor. This makes just sixteen candidates, one to every 150 voters. By Monday there will be 100 candidates in the field for alderman in the different wards of the city. These candidates will be at the polls on Tuesday, and every luckless voter who puts in an appearance will be wildly sought as soon as he deposits his little ballot. This will be exceedingly interesting to the voter, but as the society for the prevention of cruelty to defenseless humanity has kindly volunteered to loan its arsenal to all desiring aid on election day, the voter may perhaps be protected. For, like the measles, spring politics are catching.

This has been a very busy week in the carpet department of J. E. Scott & Co. Orders have been coming in from all around, and the carpets are being made and piled up awaiting orders to be laid when house cleaning is finished.

## Now on Sale.

Car potatoes—Beauty of Hebron, Early Rose, Burbanks. GONFREY BROW.

BARNES.—Mr. D. C. Barnes, of Rutland township, returned Thursday from a two months' visit in the state of Texas. He reports the prospects of crops in the state as very flattering. Oats were up by Feb. 1, and now nearly all the vegetable are on the dinner table. He found Mr. Jas. A. Blake flourishing like a green bay tree in Waco. Mr. Blake has lands in and out of Waco, whereon he has a promising garden with potatoes and corn above ground, lettuce and radishes ready to eat, thousands of cabbages, growing finely, etc. In fact, Mr. Blake is enjoying a private boom of no mean proportions. Waco, now having 20,000 people, is growing rapidly, and so are Mr. Blake's land values. Mr. Barnes is seriously contemplating removing to Texas himself.

## Amusement.

Miss Maude Atkinson who has been filling a week's engagement at the opera house has given excellent satisfaction to well filled houses. To-night she will close her engagement by presenting a grand double bill, and this afternoon they will give a grand matinee for ladies and children.

On Wednesday evening, April 4th, Miss Florence Hamilton and strong supporting company will present Scott Marble's latest and best comedy entitled "My Husband." Miss Hamilton is acknowledged by both press and public to be the most beautiful actress now on the American stage, and one which the ladies all should see. Seats are now on sale at Simon's music store.

Our \$3.00 shoes are the best fitting, the best wearing shoes in the country for the money. J. McGAFFIN.